

Independent Living Waiver

Home and Community-Based Services



What is the Independent Living Waiver?

The Independent Living Waiver is a statewide program, administered by the Division of Medicaid and the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS). It is designed to offer assistance to qualified Medicaid beneficiaries. The program allows qualified individuals to remain in a home or community-based setting as an alternative to nursing facility care or other institutional care.

Who is Qualified?

- Beneficiaries must be 16 years of age or older.
- Beneficiary must have a severe neurological or orthopedic impairment.
- Persons must require nursing facility level of care, if assistance is not provided.
- Beneficiaries must score 50 or above on the Medicaid Long Term Care Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) instrument.
- Persons qualified for Medicaid by either SSI or 300% of SSI
- Children up to 185% Federal Poverty level
- Foster Children (FC)
- Adoption Assistance Foster Children (AAFC)
- Disabled Child Living at Home (DCLH)
- Working Disabled
- Disabled Adult Children

What services are offered under this waiver?

Case Management

- Case Management Services are provided by a rehabilitation counselor and a registered nurse. The purpose of the case managers is to initiate and oversee the assessment process, monitor services on the plan of care, and ensures participant's needs are addressed.

Transition Assistance

- Transition Assistance Services are provided to a beneficiary currently residing in a nursing facility who wishes to transition from the nursing facility to the Independent Living Waiver. This is a one-time assistance of initial expenses required for setting up a household.

Personal Care Attendant

- The Personal Care Attendant (PCA) Services provide assistance with eating, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, and activities of daily living in the participant's home or community. When specified in the plan of care, this service can include light housekeeping duties.
- The waiver participant may select his or her own PCA. ALL PCA's must meet basic competencies that include both educational and functional requirements. MDRS case managers must certify and document that the PCA meets the requirements.

Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies

- This includes devices, controls, or appliances, specified in the plan of care, which enable individuals to increase their abilities to perform activities of daily living, or to perceive, control, or communicate with the environment in which they live.

Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

- These are physical adaptations to the home, required by the individual's plan of care, which are necessary to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the individual, or which enable the individual to function with greater independence in the home, and without which the individual would require institutionalization.

Financial Management Services

- The Financial Management Service (FMS) is a support service to assist the waiver participant who chooses the Participant-Directed Personal Care Service. Participant-Directed personal care service recognizes the waiver participant as the employer of record. The waiver participant will provide budgetary and employer functions with assistance from the FMS agent.

All persons who are eligible to receive Home and Community-Based Services under this waiver must first be approved through the Division of Medicaid.

For more information 

Where do I call for help?

For more information about the Independent Living Waiver contact the Division of Medicaid Long Term Care at:

The Division of Medicaid complies with all state and federal policies which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, age, sex, national origin, handicap, or disability as defined through The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Office of the Governor
Division of Medicaid
Bureau of Long Term Care
550 High Street
Walter Sillers Building, Suite 1000
Jackson, Mississippi 39201-1399

Or Phone:

1-800-421-2408

1-601-359-6141

You may also contact the Department of
Rehabilitation Services at

1-800-443-1000.

